

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-22, 26-30, 33-34, 37, 41-43, and 47-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0034935 to Bjelland et al. (Bjelland) in view of Applicants' Description of Prior Art (ADPA), U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0056096 to Albert et al. (Albert), and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0039237 to Forslow; and rejected claims 6, 7, 14, 23, 24, 38, 44, and 45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Bjelland, ADPA, Albert, Forslow, and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0139180 to McIntosh et al. (McIntosh).

By this amendment, Applicants amend claims 2, 12, 21, 27, 29, 33, and 48 to more clearly define the features of these claims and amend claims 1, 28, 30, 34, and 49 to improve form.

Claims 1-7, 12-16, 19-24, 26-30, 33, 34, 37, 38, 41-45, 47, and 48 are currently pending.

Rejection of claims 1-5, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-22, 26-30, 33-34, 37, 41-43, and 47-49 under 35 USC §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-22, 26-30, 33-34, 37, 41-43, and 47-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bjelland in view of Albert, ADPA and Forslow. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia, the following feature: "using an authentication message to signal service selection information via a first network to an authentication server of a second network, the service selection information indicating an access point, wherein the first and second networks are distinct."

In contrast to claim 1, Bjelland describes attaching a mobile terminal to a GPRS network. The mobile terminal sends a request to a serving GPRS support node (SGSN). The request indicates whether the mobile terminal attaches to a packet switched service or to a packet switched service and a circuit switched service. Subsequently, a packet data protocol (PDP) context is activated between the GPRS network and an IP network. The PDP context allows the mobile terminal to communicate with the IP network. The packet data protocol context comprises parameters including an access point name (APN).

The Examiner appears to allege on page 2 of the Office Action that Bjelland's request constitutes the above-noted feature of claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree for at least the reason that Bjelland's request does not include service selection information indicating an access point over which at least one service is accessed. Rather, Bjelland's request merely includes parameters that indicate the mobile terminal's multi-timeslot capabilities, supported ciphering algorithms, and user preference for connection to a packet switched service and/or a circuit switched service. Bjelland at paragraph 14.

Further, although Bjelland's packet data protocol context (which is activated after the request) includes parameters including an access point name, a packet data protocol context is not an authentication message. Nor is the Bjelland's packet data protocol context signaled *via* a first network to an authentication server of a second network.

In view of the foregoing, Bjelland fails to disclose or suggest at least the following feature of claim 1: "using an authentication message to signal service selection information via a first network to an authentication server of a second network, the

service selection information indicating an access point, wherein the first and second networks are distinct.”

Although Albert discloses a method for securely authenticating network access credentials for users, Albert fails to cure the noted deficiency of Bielland. Although Forslow discloses common access between a mobile communications network and an external network with selectable packet-switched and circuit-switched services, Forslow fails to cure the above-noted deficiencies. ADPA also fails to cure the noted deficiencies.

Moreover, on page 3 of the Office Action, Applicants submit that the Examiner mischaracterized what paragraph 6 of the instant application teaches in an effort to form a rejection based on ADPA.

In view of the foregoing, claim 1 is allowable over Bielland, Albert, ADPA, and Forslow, whether taken individually or in combination. Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claim 1, and claims 2-5, at least by reason of their dependency, should be withdrawn.

Independent claims 12, 21, 27-30, 33, 34, 48, and 49, although of different scope, include features similar to those noted above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, independent claims 12, 21, 27-30, 33, 34, 48, and 49 as well as claims 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 26, 37, 41-43, and 47 at least by reason of their dependency are allowable over Bielland, Albert, ADPA and Forslow, whether taken individually or in combination, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of these claims should be withdrawn.

Rejection of claims 6, 7, 14, 23, 24, 38, 44, and 45 under 35 USC §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 6, 7, 14, 23, 24, 38, 44, and 45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Bielland, ADPA, Albert, Forslow, and McIntosh.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 6 depends from claim 1, and includes all the features recited therein, including: “using an authentication message to signal service selection information via a first network to an authentication server of a second network, the service selection information indicating an access point.” For at least the reasons given above, claim 6 is allowable over Bjelland, ADPA, Albert, and Forslow, whether taken individually or in combination. Furthermore, although McIntosh discloses a private cellular network with a public network interface and a wireless local area network extension, McIntosh fails to cure the noted deficiencies of Bjelland, ADPA, Albert, and Forslow. In view of the foregoing, claim 1 is allowable over Bjelland, ADPA, Albert, Forslow, and McIntosh, whether taken individually or in combination, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claim 6 should be withdrawn.

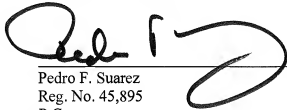
Claims 7, 14, 23, 24, 38, 44, and 45, although of different scope, include features similar to those noted above with respect to claim 6. Therefore, claims 7, 14, 23, 24, 38, 44, and 45 are allowable over Bjelland, ADPA, Albert, Forslow, and McIntosh, whether taken individually or in combination, and for at least this reason, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of those claims should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, the pending claims are in condition for allowance. It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper.

Applicants are concurrently filing herewith a Petition for a one-month extension of time, authorization for a credit-card payment of the filing fees mentioned above is submitted herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional claim fees and any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 39700-766N01US/NC39614US. If there are any questions regarding this reply, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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